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Edited by Joseph Farrell and Paolo Pappa
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A History of Italian Theatre

With the aim of providing a comprehensive history of Italian drama from its origins to the present day, this book treats theatre in its widest sense, discussing the impact of all the elements and figures integral to the collaborative process of theatre-making. The impact of designers, actors, directors and impresarios, as well as of playwrights, is subjected to critical scrutiny, while individual chapters examine the changes in technology and shifts in the cultural climate which have influenced theatre. No other approach would be acceptable for Italian theatre, where, from the days of *commedia dell'arte*, the central figure has often been the actor rather than the playwright. The important writers, such as Carlo Goldoni and Luigi Pirandello who have become part of the central canon of European playwriting, and those whose impact has been limited to the Italian stage, receive detailed critical treatment, as do the 'great actors' of nineteenth-century theatre or the directors of our own time, but the focus is always on the bigger picture.

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Alcyone (1978), the biography *Gabriele D'Annunzio, Defiant Archangel* (1999), the critical essays *Gabriele D'Annunzio tra Italia e Inghilterra* (2003) and the historical analysis, *Il generale e il comandante: Ceccherini e D'Annunzio a Fiume* (2004).